

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A surveillance monitoring camera, comprising:

an image signal receiver receiving image signals and converting the image signals into electrical image signals and outputting the electrical image signals;

an image signal decoder converting the electrical image signals output from the image signal receiver into digital signals and outputting the digital signals;

an image signal compressor compressing the digital signals output from the image signal decoder and outputting the compressed digital image signals;

a storage device storing the compressed digital image signals from the image signal compressor; and

a controller controlling the conversion, compression, and storing of the image signals.

2. The camera of claim 1, wherein the camera further comprises a sensor that detects a change in conditions input from the image signal receiver or from external conditions.

3. The camera of claim 2, wherein the camera further comprises a communication interface which receives and transmits the image signals stored in the storage device and information on movement and operation of the camera to/from a site remote from the camera according to operations of the controller.

4. An image processing method of a surveillance monitoring camera that receives image signals and converts the image signals into digital image signals, comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving the image signals and converting the image signals into electrical image signals;

(b) converting the electrical image signals into the digital image signals;

(c) compressing the digital image signals; and

(d) storing the compressed digital image signals in a storage device built into the surveillance monitoring camera.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (d) further comprises a step of (e) receiving the image signals only when a change in conditions of the image

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or external conditions is detected by a sensor.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (d) further comprises a step of (f) receiving and transmitting the image signals stored in the storage device and conditions and instructions of the operation of the monitoring camera from/to  
5 a site remote from the camera.